8. Cooperation in the field of Protection of Environment and Natural Resources: Areas of cooperation include on subjects such as global environment, climatic changes, depletion of the ozone layer, conservation of biological diversity, protection of tigers and Siberian cranes. Prevention of trade in endangered species. The facilitation of direct contacts between organisations (state, public and private). The establishment of a working group. Forms of cooperation joint projects, exchange of information. Nodal agencies Ministry of Environment and Forests, India and the Ministry of Environment Protection and Natural Resources, Russia.

9. *Standardisation, Meterology and Certification*: Nodal agencies, Bureau of Indian Standards and the Committees of the Russian Federation for standardisation, Meteorology, and certification : A sub-working Group to be established. Cooperation in the field of standardisation, Meterology and certification. Joint research and standards specimen checks.

10. Defence related agreements:

Protocol to the Agreement on extending credit to the Republic of India for financing long-term projects in the field of technical cooperation and for purchasing special equipment, dated September 17, 1992: The Protocol makes amendments to the September 17, 1992 agreement and extends the period of utilisation of the credit till September 1996. US $ 830 million worth of special equipment is to be delivered under the Agreement. 5 per cent interest, 7 years repayment maintained.

11. *Agreement on formation of indo-Russian aviation Pvt. Ltd.* signed between Aviation Industries on Indian and Russia sides. Indian Partners are Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. and Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India Ltd. The Russian partners are the Moscow Aircraft Production Organisation, The Mikoyan Design Bureau, State Corporation for Armaments Export 'Rosvoorouzheniye' and the Ryazan State Instruments Plant.

The Joint Venture will soon be registered under Indian Law and will provide a wide range of maintenance support and services to all aircraft of Russian origin in India and in third countries. The Joint Venture shall have an authorised share capital of US Dollars 400 million. Equity 50 : 50.

Setting up of Food Processing Industries in the State of Madhya Pradesh

2097. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to make any assessment regarding potentiality of the State of Madhya Pradesh for the setting up of food processing industries; and

(b) what are the details and salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) The assessment of potential of food processing industries in a State is done generally by the State concerned and the Ministry extends financial assistance under its Plan Schemes for studies including identification of potentials. No request for assistance has been received from Madhya Pradesh for such studies.

Setting up of Food Processing Industries

2098. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the problem of unemployement in the country can be solved to some extent with the help of setting up of Food Processing Industries; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken by Government in this direction?